

As you are aware, the Sinclair Broadcast Group is now instructing their 62 local stations, many in battleground states, to pre-empt regular programming to air a Kerry smear piece two weeks before the election. This unprecedented move would be direct electioneering by a corporate media giant -- and against federal election law.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Yet, Sinclair's current company-sponsored campaign against Kerry shows that when large companies control the airwaves without restriction, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.